

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okayasu, et al.
Serial No. : 09/492,044
For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS
AND METHOD
Filed : January 26, 2000
Examiner : Hwang, Joon H.
Art Unit : 2162

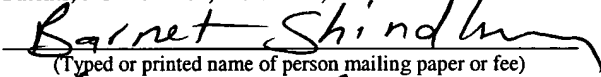
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**AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 30, 2005, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on September 30, 2005, Applicants submit herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins
on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.